

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. *(original)* A mobile communication device, comprising:
 - a plurality of device applications including a digital music player (230);
 - a mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110) for switching an input mode into a first mode and into a second mode, said mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110) being operable to change modes in at least one application;
 - a multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100), said switch being operable to receive a user input; and
 - a controller (210) connected to said multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100) and to said mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110), adapted to generate commands and adapted to transmit said commands to one of the plurality of device applications;
wherein said commands include a first set of commands operable with said input mode being in said first mode and a second set of commands with said input mode being in said second mode; wherein said first set of commands corresponding to said first mode are adapted to control device applications;
characterized in that
said second set of commands corresponding to said second mode is adapted to control a set of music player functions, wherein said second mode is exclusively dedicated to said controlling of said music player functions independent from the current operation mode of said mobile communication device.
2. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of pieces of music are arranged in a predetermined sequence, characterized in that
said second set of commands comprises commands out of a group comprising:
 - a starting function of the music reproduction;
 - a stopping function of the music reproduction;
 - a fast forward winding function of the reproduced piece of music;
 - a fast backward winding function of the reproduced piece of music;
 - a skipping forward function to a subsequent piece of music; and
 - a skipping backward function to a preceding piece of music

3. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 2, characterized in that said fast forward winding function of the reproduced piece of music and said fast backward winding function of the reproduced piece of music are activated by pressing and holding said multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100) in said input mode being in said second mode for a certain period of time.
4. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterized in that said skipping forward function to a subsequent piece of music and said skipping backward function to a preceding of music are activated by pressing and releasing said multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100) in said input mode being in said second mode for a certain period of time.
5. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to ~~any one of the claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, characterized in that said mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110) is reserved for switching exclusively said input mode into said first mode and said second mode.
6. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to ~~any one of the claims 2 or 5~~ claim 2, characterized in that said multiple input switch has at least four switching positions, wherein
 - said at least four switching positions comprises a first set of switching positions and a second set of switching positions, said switching positions of said first set and said second set being arranged opposite to each other;
 - wherein said multiple input switch operated in one position of said first and/or second set of switching positions causes a commands out of said second set of commands corresponding to said input mode being in second mode;
 - wherein said multiple input switch operated in one position of said first set of switching positions causes a command out of said second set of commands comprising at least browsing functions to control a user interface and corresponding to said input mode being in said first mode.
7. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according claim 6, characterized in that said first set of switching positions is arranged along a first line and

said second set of switching positions is arranged along a second line being substantially perpendicular to said first line.

8. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 1, characterized in that
 - a third set of commands is provided operable with said input mode being in said first or said second mode, said third set of commands being adapted to control a subset of music player functions.
9. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least a set of symbols printed on said multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100) indicates said music player functions to be controlled and wherein said set of symbols and said mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110) have substantially a common color.
10. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said second mode is active during depressing and holding said mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110).
11. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a user interface being adapted to control said device applications, characterized in that said first set of commands is adapted to provide a browsing function through said user interface.
12. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 11, further comprising:
 - a display (240) for displaying said user interface to a user, said display (240) being coupled to said controller (210) via a display driver (230).
13. *(currently amended)* ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 12, characterized in that a music player control user interface is displayed to said user in said second mode.

14. (*currently amended*) ~~Mobile~~ The mobile communication device according to claim 12 or ~~claim 13~~, characterized in that said input mode is automatically switched into said second mode in case a music player control user interface is displayed.

15. (*currently amended*) ~~Method A~~ The method for controlling functions of a digital music player implemented in a mobile communication device, characterized by

- receiving a mode signal from a mode selector (SK1, SK2, 110);
- switching an input mode into a first mode or into a second mode in accordance with said received mode signal;
- receiving an input signal from a multiple input switch (NK0, NK1, NK2, 100);
- generating a command from said received input signal in combination with said input mode, said command being one of a plurality of commands including a first set of commands generated in said first mode and a second set of commands generated in said second mode; and
- in case said generated command is one of said first set of commands, transmitting said generated command to one of a plurality of device applications including said digital music player to be controlled in accordance with said generated command;

characterized by

- in case said generated command is one of said second set of commands, transmitting said generated command to said digital music player to control a set of music player functions; wherein said second mode is exclusively dedicated to said controlling of said music player functions independent from the current operation mode of said mobile communication device.

16. (*currently amended*) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 15, characterized in that

- generating a command from said received input signal in combination with said input mode, said command being one of a plurality of commands including a first set of commands generated in said first mode, a second set of commands generated in said second mode and a third set of commands generated in said first mode and said second mode; and
- in case said generated command is one of said third set of commands, transmitting said generated command to said digital music player to control another set of music player functions.

Following the claims, please add the abstract as follows:

--Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to a mobile communication device including a music player and a method of its operation. In order to improve the usability and to speed the controlling of the implemented music player, a advantageous keyboard layout including a multiple switch is provided. The multiple switch is dedicated to control device applications as well as the music player. Therefore, a mode selector is additionally included to switch the into different input mode allowing to input commands by the multiple switch dedicated to the device applications or the music player, respectively, corresponding to the selected input mode. Additionally, the coloring of the symbol printing on the multiple switch and the mode selector is adapted to the key assignments corresponding to the different input mode to height the visible differentiation from the balance of the keyboard and to lead a user operating the multiple switch.

(Fig. 1a)--